

Applicant : Peter J. Shortridge et al.
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Attorney's Docket No.: 11984-005001

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the finality of the Office Action mailed April 23, 2003. Applicants submit that inconsistencies between claims indicated by the Examiner as pending and claims indicated by the Examiner as rejected precludes a complete response by the Applicants.

Applicants believe that claims 1-35 and 43-61 are pending in the application following entry of the Response to Office Action mailed January 27, 2003. The Office Action Summary sheet included with the April 23, 2003 Office Action, however, indicates that claims 1-35 and 52-61 are pending.

As to the rejected claims, page 2 of the April 23, 2003 Office Action indicates that claims 1-3, 6-10, 12-21, 22-25, 28, 29, 30-33, and 43-51 are rejected under 35 USC §103 (Applicants note that pages 3, 5, and 7 discuss the rejections of claims 52-55, 56-58, and 59-61, respectively); page 7 indicates that claims 4, 5, 26, and 27 are rejected under 35 USC §103; and page 8 indicates that claims 11, 12, 34, and 35 are rejected under 35 USC §103.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the finality of the most recent Office Action and issuance of a new Office Action clarifying the pending and rejected claims.